



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
TORU ONO) Examiner: Ryan M. Gleitz
Application No.: 10/697,127) Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: October 31, 2003) Allowed: February 8, 2005
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)
HAVING CHANGE-OVER TYPE)
DEVELOPING DEVICE) April 14, 2005

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicant is in receipt of a Notice of Allowance dated February 8, 2005, in the above-referenced application. The Issue Fee is due on or before May 9, 2005, and is being paid concurrently herewith.

The statement of reasons for indication of allowable subject matter states:

Claims 19-22 and 28-31 are considered patentable because of the inclusion of the claim limitation, "the designating portion can designate between the first mode and the second modes as a standby position before the auto-discriminating portion makes the discrimination"

Claims 23, 24, 27, 32, 33, and 36 are considered patentable because of the inclusion of the claim limitation "the control portion

selects between the first mode and the second mode and stands by before the auto-discriminating portion makes the discrimination”

....

However, Applicants note that this statement does not accurately reflect what is recited in each of the independent claims. For example, independent Claims 19 and 28 recite “a designating portion by which an operator can designate between the first mode and the second mode” Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is allowable for the combination of claimed features recited therein.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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